

MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting focused on updates regarding the Jefferson County Behavioral Health Consortium (BHC), including website development, opioid settlement funding, and the progress of various community mental health initiatives. In a follow-on discussion attended by only the voting members, discussion was held on next steps to set up a governance infrastructure.

Links: [Meeting Packet](#) and [Video; Webpage for other BHC resources and information](#).

ATTENDEES

David Carlbom, Medical Program Director, Jefferson County; Dunia Faulx, Jefferson Healthcare; Matt Ready, Jefferson Healthcare Public Hospital Commissioner; Brian Richardson, Dove House Recovery Café; Judge Brandon Mack, Superior Court; Chief Tim McKern, Quilcene Fire; Commissioner Greg Brotherton; Anya Callahan, JCPH, Joe Nole, JSCO, Barb Jones, JCPH-CHIP; Rebecca Marriott, Therapeutic Courts Coordinator; Jim Novelli, DBH; Kelli Parcher, OWL360; Patrick Johnson, NAMI; and Lori Fleming, BHC.

MEETING NOTES

Opioid Abatement Funding & Budget Review ([Meeting Packet- Slides 2-7](#))

Current Funding Overview: Reviewed the use of \$96,326 from the opioid settlement funds received in early 2024, which is allocated through October 2024. These funds cover operational costs, including the facilitation of meetings, website development, and community initiatives (Slide 4).

Future Funding: Discussion also touched on upcoming disbursements for future fiscal years, noting a \$19,770 prepayment from a distributor's 2028 amount will be paid in 2024. (Slide 5). It was highlighted that the 10% allocated each year for administration costs by the Opioid Abatement Council will be reviewed once administrative cost clarity emerges (Slide 5). It was also clarified that future-year payments will fluctuate. The BHC's intention of long-term sustainability remains as does the plan to use the Opioid Settlement funds to maintain the BHC as to collaboratively assess, prioritize, and develop project plans, and to pursue project funding.

RHNDP-P Grant Application Results ([Meeting Packet- Slide 8](#))

The **Rural Health Network Development Planning Program (RHNDP-P)** grant application was not successful, despite a high score. However, the team remains optimistic about leveraging the defined project for future funding opportunities.

Funding Opportunities

OCH Funding ([Meeting Packet - Slide 9](#)) OCH is evolving as they complete their Medicaid Transformation work and [funding is currently available for community-based care coordination partners](#). Proposals are due September 10, will be awarded Oct. 15, and contracts will begin November 1st, 2024. Some individual BHC members are pursuing this funding, but the BHC has not pursued this regional funding to avoid competing with members for this funding.

BHAC Funding ([Meeting Packet - Slide 10](#))

The BHAC put out the RFP for the 1/10th of 1% funding opportunities for 24 month term. Proposals are due August 21, 2024. Awards will be announced at their September 10th meeting.

Website Development Update

Heather Moore-Davies, Fire and Flow, the contractor supporting the development of the new **Jefferson County BHC** website showed the project's progress. The website will include community resources, member information, and project details. Updates are currently ongoing, with a focus on integrating resources from the prior version of the website.

Community Conversations Initiative [Meeting Packet – Slides 12-22](#))

Summary: This initiative included discussions on mental health and substance use stigma across the county. While these conversations largely involved those already knowledgeable about mental health and substance use issues, the value of broader community engagement was highlighted. Ideas for expanding the initiative included exploring the incorporation of these conversations into other community settings, like school boards or public forums.

- Community conversations revealed diverse perspectives on many relevant topics including methadone use, recovery challenges, and the complex nature of maintaining relationships while undergoing recovery.
- Emphasis was placed on continuing these conversations to reduce stigma and improve understanding around MAT.

Next Steps: Once the BHC's governance and infrastructure has been finalized, continue these conversations, expanding participation and targeting a broader audience.

RCORP Grant Completion Overview [Meeting Packet – Slide 23](#))

The RCORP-Implementation grant's performance period will be completed on August 31st, 2024. The final report will highlight the consortium's progress and achievements over the last three years, with plans to extend the impact through future initiatives.

BHC's Next Steps post BHAC's 5/30/24 Planning Meeting ([Meeting Packet – Slide 24](#))

The BHAC planning meeting was designed to gather insights and strategies from community stakeholders regarding the behavioral health system in Jefferson County. They will be awarding current funding out for RFP based on that input.

The discussion emphasized that while there is a broad range of action items and needs, the BHC must focus on **strategic prioritization** and **collaborative leadership** to drive long-term improvements in the behavioral health system. (The BHC also needs to determine what data points are **most useful** for tracking the progress of their efforts and identifying long-term trends in the community's behavioral health needs.) The **finalization of the governance structure** will be a critical next step before moving forward with these efforts.

Naloxone Box Installation & Harm Reduction Efforts ([Meeting Packet – Slide 25](#))

Naloxone Box Installations: As of this meeting, 11 Naloxone boxes have been placed at key locations across Jefferson County, with additional boxes planned (

Video Resources: Two key training videos, one on [Naloxone training](#) and another on [harm reduction](#), were shared.

[Updated Yellow Cards Available as of 7/2024](#) ([Meeting Packet – Slide 26](#))

Members can get updated Yellow cards at JCPH.